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STAN209
USPN: 09/733,266
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AMENDMENT 37 C.F.R. 1.111 Address to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231	Attorney Docket	STAN209
	First Named Inventor	R. Kuo
	Application Number	09/733,266
	Filing Date	December 8, 2000
	Group Art Unit	1651
	Examiner Name	V. Afremova
	Title: <i>Methods for Modulation of Oocyte Activation</i>	

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated July 3, 2001, which set a three-month period for response.

Please amend the application as follows:

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IN THE CLAIMS

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Please amend claim 1 as follows:

B1 ~~July 3~~
1. (amended) A method of activating an oocyte *in vitro*, the method comprising:
contacting said oocyte with nitric oxide (NO), an NO donor, nitric oxide synthase (NOS), or inducer of NOS;
wherein said oocyte is activated to reenter the mitotic cycle.

B2 ~~July 3~~
Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said oocyte is a mammalian oocyte.

B3 ~~July 3~~
Please amend claim 5 as follows:

5. (amended) A method of inhibiting oocyte activation during fertilization *in vitro*, the method comprising:
contacting said oocyte with a nitric oxide synthase inhibitor prior to or during fertilization;
wherein said oocyte is inhibited from activation and reentry into the mitotic cycle.